

Despite his brief appearances, is a pivotal character in "The Hairy Ape." As an old Irishman prone to heavy drinking and philosophical reflections, he offers a historical perspective on the changes brought about by machinery in the shipping industry. His experiences shed light on a time when labor at sea held value and dignity, contrasting with the dehumanization of modern ship work. Yank's dismissal of Paddy reflects his own acceptance of the oppressive nature of modern labor. Paddy's insights into bourgeois lifestyles, particularly his characterization of Mildred, shape Yank's perception. His wisdom, rooted in real experiences, underscores the importance of freedom in forming genuine opinions